

CLAIMS:

1. A device for framing an article, the device including  
an outer frame component;  
an outer panel including a rear side and a viewer side and defining  
an aperture, the outer panel being mounted within the outer frame  
component;  
an inner frame component which includes an outer abutment  
surface which overlaps a peripheral region of the viewer side of the outer  
panel thereby to conceal a peripheral edge of the aperture;  
an inner panel which is located within the inner frame component,  
the inner frame component including an inner abutment surface which  
overlaps a peripheral region of the inner panel in an abutting fashion and  
the article being mounted in use within the inner frame component; and  
transparent sheet material mounted to the outer frame component  
and covering the article.

2. A device as claimed in Claim 1, in which the inner panel is  
an inner panel arrangement including at least two sub-panels, the inner  
panel arrangement defining a border between the article and the inner  
frame component.

3. A device as claimed in Claim 1 or Claim 2, in which the  
outer and inner abutment surfaces are coplanar.

4. A device as claimed in Claim 1 or Claim 2, in which the  
abutment surfaces lie in spaced planes so that, in use, the inner and  
outer panels lie in spaced planes.

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*object*

5. A device as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, in which the inner frame component includes a concealed portion and an exposed portion, the exposed portion defining the inner and outer abutment surfaces.

*5 back*

6. A device as claimed in Claim 5 in which the inner frame component defines a generally T-shaped profile in which, when viewed in cross-section, the vertical component of the T-shaped profile corresponds with the concealed portion and the horizontal component corresponds with the exposed portion.

*10 object*

7. A device as claimed in Claim 6, in which the exposed portion includes a visible decorative pattern.

*object*

8. A device as claimed in any one of the preceding claims 5 to 7 inclusive, in which the exposed portion has a height of between 1 mm and 3 mm.

*15 object*

9. A device as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, in which the inner frame component is rectangular in outline and formed from four interconnected members.

*object*

10. A device as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, in which the outer panel defines an outer panel arrangement including at least two sub-panels, which are arranged in a face-to-face abutting fashion and each of which defines apertures of different magnitudes.

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*object*

11. A device as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, in which the outer frame component is as a picture frame.

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*Object*

12. A device as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, in which the transparent sheet material is a sheet of glass about which the outer frame component extends.

*Object*

5 13. A device as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, in which the panel is matt board.

*Side view  
front*

14. A device for framing an article, the device including an outer frame component;

10 an outer panel including a rear side and a viewer side and defining an aperture, the outer panel being mounted within the outer frame component;

an inner frame component which includes an outer abutment surface which overlaps a peripheral region of the viewer side of the outer panel thereby to conceal a peripheral edge of the aperture;

15 an inner panel which is located within the inner frame component, the inner frame component including an inner abutment surface which overlaps a peripheral region of the inner panel in an abutting fashion and the article being mounted in use within the inner frame component; and

20 a sheet of glass mounted to the outer frame component so that the outer frame component extends about the sheet of glass, with the sheet of glass covering the article.

15. A method of assembling a frame for an article, the method including

25 providing an outer panel, an inner panel in which the article is to be mounted, an inner frame component which includes inner and outer abutment surfaces, an outer frame component, and transparent sheet material ;

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locating the inner frame component between the inner and the outer panels so that the inner and the outer abutment surfaces of the inner frame component abut an inner peripheral region of the outer panel and an outer peripheral region of the inner panel;

5 fastening the inner and outer panels to the inner frame component;  
and

mounting the outer panel within the outer frame component with the transparent sheet material over the inner frame component.

10 16. A method as claimed in Claim 15, in which fastening of the panels to the inner frame component is by way of a mechanical fasteners selected from the group consisting of staples and tabs which are bent.

*omitted*  
17. A new device, substantially as herein described and illustrated.

*omitted*  
15 18. A new method of assembling a picture frame, substantially as herein described.

*omitted*  
19. A new inner frame component, substantially as herein described.